

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Application in light of the Office Action mailed June 21, 2006. At the time of the Office Action, Claims 1-129 were pending and rejected in the Application. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims and favorable action in this case.

Section 102 Rejection

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-7, 9, 11-37, 43-49, 51, 53-79, 85-91, 93, 95-121, and 127-129 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,023,802 issued to Kawahata et al. (hereinafter "*Kawahata*"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this rejection of the above-mentioned claims. "A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 U.S.P.Q.2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987); M.P.E.P. §2131.

Applicants respectfully submit that *Kawahata* does not disclose, teach, or suggest, either expressly or inherently, each and every element of Claim 1. For example, *Kawahata* does not disclose, teach, or suggest "receiving a priority for the call based on user input provided contemporaneously with the dialed number." Instead, *Kawahata* discloses that "the call control section 24 decides whether or not the received dial number is a priority control special number." Col. 4, ll. 48-50; Col. 4, ll. 54-55; Col. 4, ll. 57-58. As another example, *Kawahata* does not disclose, teach, or suggest "generating a priority indicator based on the priority." In fact, *Kawahata* discloses "transfer[ing] an entry to the protocol control section 25 by using, as input information, an index indicative of the general call of a dial number, the read media type, a priority class and a trunk number." Col. 5, ll. 12-16; Col. 5, ll. 24-27; Col. 5, ll. 29-32. Because *Kawahata* fails to disclose, teach, or suggest at least these limitations, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of independent Claim 1 and its dependents.

Independent Claims 17, 28, 43, 59, 70, 85, 101, 112, and 127 each recite certain limitations that, for reasons substantially similar to those discussed with reference to independent Claim 1, *Kawahata* does not disclose, teach, or suggest. Claims 17, 28, 43, 59,

70, 85, 101, 112, and 127 are thus allowable for at least these reasons. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of independent Claims 17, 28, 43, 59, 70, 85, 101, 112, and 127 together with their dependents.

Section 103 Rejection

The Examiner rejects Claims 8, 10, 38-42, 80-84, 92, 94, and 122-126 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kawahata* in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0233892 issued to Roberts et al. (hereinafter "*Roberts*"). "To support the conclusion that the claimed invention is directed to obvious subject matter, either the references must expressly or impliedly suggest the claimed invention or the examiner must present a convincing line of reasoning as to why the artisan would have found the claimed invention to have been obvious in light of the teachings of the references." M.P.E.P. §706.02(j) (citing *Ex parte Clapp*, 227 U.S.P.Q. 972, 973 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1985)). Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner does not present either to support the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Applicants respectfully submit that *Kawahata* and *Roberts*, alone and in combination, fail to disclose, teach, or suggest each limitation recited in Applicants' Claims 8, 10, 38-42, 80-84, 92, 94, and 122-126. The above-mentioned claims are dependent claims that include limitations of their respective independent claims, which have been shown to be allowable, and add additional elements that further distinguish the combinations. Claims 8, 10, 38-42, 80-84, 92, 94, and 122-126 are allowable for at least these reasons. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of Claims 8, 10, 38-42, 80-84, 92, 94, and 122-126.

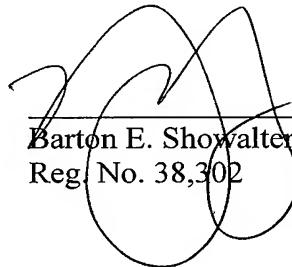
CONCLUSION

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for immediate allowance. For the foregoing reasons and for all other reasons clear and apparent, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Applicants believe no fee is due. However, if this is not correct, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

If there are matters that can be discussed by telephone to advance prosecution of this application, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact its attorney, Barton E. Showalter, at (214) 953-6509.

Respectfully submitted,
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